LETTERS@METRO.US

KOOL & THE GANG MIGHT AS WELL JUMP {page 12}

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BOSTON
Thursday, March 1, 2012

WANTED: T GM TO WORK FOR PEANUTS

- A new general manager should have been in place in December
- Officials say a low salary is part of the reason for the hiring delay {page 02}

Metropolitik

Will Romney coast to easy GOP victory?

- Former Gov. won primaries Tuesday, but still not secure in nomination
- Why did Dems vote Santorum? {page 06}

What about safe smooshing?

Snooki is pregnant, MTV isn't exactly fist-pumping about a 'Jersey' baby shower {page 07}

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In the news

52%

A majority of voters surveyed recently said they would choose Republican Sen. Scott Brown over Democratic candidate Elizabeth Warren. The poll of nearly 500 voters was conducted by Opinion Dynamics of Cambridge and was obtained by the Globe. Brown has a 10 point lead over Warren. METRO

Today's local tweet

"Lady Gaga doesn't visit Boston all winter ... no snow. Lady Gaga comes to Boston [yesterday] ... snow. GO HOME LADY"

@BUNKOSQUAD, FINDING SOMEONE TO BLAME FOR YESTERDAY'S SNOWFALL

Court: Man can't keep pigeons

BROOKLINE. A court ruled that a Brookline man can't keep luring pigeons to his home.

Edwin Alexanderian had built a pigeon coop on his property, according to the Brookline Tab.

The town challenged him and court officials ruled he must take steps to keep the pigeons away like using fake owls and balloons. METRO

▶ The loot

Bag clerks facing theft charges

BOSTON. State police are trying to return stolen items to their owners after two baggage handlers were arrested for allegedly stealing from passengers.

Lashawn Fontenot, 25, of Lynn and Joshua Wright, 25, of Mattapan, were arrested Tuesday at Logan Airport, state police said.

Massport officials contacted state police after receiving complaints about theft from luggage moving through terminal E. The men worked for a baggage handling company. METRO

Suspects try to hide in water

BOSTON. Two men that robbed a man near Boston University tried to hide in the Charles River after police chased them yesterday morning.

A group of men pulled a knife on the victim and stole his wallet and cell phone.

Two of the suspects fled toward the river, where police pulled them out while the third dodged traffic running from police along Storrow Drive.

Police did not locate the fourth suspect, according to reports. METRO

Low salary a problem in prolonged T GM search?

Looming fare increase and low salary hinder GM search ◐ Last December was target for new hire

A low-paying salary and the weary outcome of potential fare increases coming down the tracks have been factors in the delayed search for a new MBTA general manager, according to some transit board members.

"The salary that we have been paying is very much on the low side and many candidates [currently] have considerably higher salaries," said MassDOT board member Elizabeth Levin.

Levin is the chairwoman of the search committee tasked with finding a new GM, a duty they had hoped to wrap up in December.

"We have just been very busy here," said Levin. "We are going to move forward, but it'll probably be the spring [when a new GM is chosen]."

Levin said the three-person committee, which includes MassDOT Secretary Rich Davey, the former GM, is searching for a replacement "at a time when [the T's] funding isn't so certain."

"There were probably people who didn't apply because of the salary," she said.

Acting GM Jon Davis assumed the role in September when Davey was promoted.

MBTA Advisory Board Executive Director Paul Regan said he's surprised he hasn't "heard a peep" from the committee about the GM search status.

"It's out of the ordinary," said Regan. "[The board has] played everything very close to the vest."

Regan said if it were up to him, he'd vote for Davis for the gig.

"In a heartbeat," he said. "I would feel lucky to have him, rather than just plucking someone without his level of experience or knowledge."

T officials declined to comment if Davis' hat was in the ring.

Search committee members would not disclose the number of applicants.

STEVE ANNEAR
steve.annear@metro.us

Transit salaries

Transportation officials refused to say at what salary they are advertising the GM position, but former GM Rich Davey made significantly less than his counterparts in other cities.

- Former GM Davey: $145K
- SEPTA GM Joseph Casey: $212K
- San Francisco MUNI Exec. Dir. Ed Reiskin: $294K
- Long Island RR President Helena Williams: $286,872*

**2009 pay*

Doing just fine

Acting GM Jon Davis is happy to hold the spot of T boss until the committee finalizes its search, according to T officials.

"He is pleased to serve for as long as the board and the secretary desire," said spokesman Joe Pesaturo, on behalf of Davis.

Davis has attended nearly every public hearing on the T's proposed fare increases and service cuts. METRO/SA

COURTNEY SACCO/METRO

▶ Lady Gaga takes a picture with a fan before yesterday's event at Harvard University.

Cambridge goes goo-goo for Gaga

CAMBRIDGE. Jasper Swiniuch, a "ginormous" Lady Gaga fan, handed the music star a personalized birthday card as she arrived to a mob of fans on Harvard's campus yesterday.

"I'm through the roof," said Swiniuch, who drove 45-minutes just to catch a glimpse of the star. "I love her music and I love her message."

Hundreds of people flocked to the entrances of the Sanders Theater at Harvard along with Swiniuch last night where Lady Gaga officially launched her Born This Way Foundation with her mother and media mogul Oprah Winfrey.

Some held signs and others dressed the part wearing blonde bob-style wigs like those Gaga has been known to don.

During her visit, Gaga told students and faculty to do "simple acts of kindness" in their communities. METRO/SA

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Unusual Function	$40,000	Gruen	$1,200
Unusual Shape	$11,000	Hamilton	$250
Chiming	$120,000	Illinois	$1,500
Chronograph	$17,000	Movado	$2,500
Regular	$12,000	Omega	$2,500
Repeating	$65,000	Patek Philippe	$80,000
Stop Watches	$11,000	Rolex	$25,000
Pocket Watches	$55,000	Tiffany & Co.	$80,000
Doctor's Watches	$2,000	Ulysse Nardin	$12,000
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News in brief

Sweeping starts for some today

BOSTON. South End and North End residents, start your engines and move those cars.

Street sweeping beings in those neighborhood today this year.

The rest of the city doesn't have to worry about playing musical cars until April 1, when the roadway cleaning goes citywide.

The mayor's office said the move was meant to better align sweeping schedules with trash and recycling days. METRO

Another monkey dies at Harvard lab

CAMBRIDGE. New experiments at a Harvard Medical School lab have been suspended after another research monkey died there earlier this week.

The monkey was the fourth to die at the New England Primate Research Center in less than two years, according to the Globe.

METRO

Mom gets jail for posing girl nude

ATTLEBORO. A 41-year-old Attleboro woman was sentenced this week to three months in jail for posing her 10-year-old daughter nude on a webcam for a man who told her he was a photographer looking for models, according to the Sun Chronicle.

METRO

Cops search the home of missing BC student

A weeklong search for a missing Boston College student has come up inconclusive so far.

Officials are puzzled by the disappearance of 21-year-old Franco Garcia, who went missing Feb. 22 after a night out with friends at Mary Ann's bar in Brighton.

Yesterday police turned to his parent's home in West Newton for clues, according to the Globe.

The desperate search has gained the attention of the Boston community — as well as one major celebrity.

Musician Bruce Springsteen posted a message on his Facebook page yesterday asking for the public's help with the investigation.

"Help find missing Boston College student Franco Garcia," Springsteen wrote on his wall.

Springsteen's son, Evan, attends the Newton-based school.

NICOLAUS CZARNECKI/METRO

▶ State police have enlisted the help of helicopters in the search for Franco Garcia.

Despite the snowfall yesterday, police continued to look for Garcia in a body of water.

For the third day straight divers from the Massachusetts State Police Underwater Recovery unit scoured the Chestnut Hill Reservoir in their search for clues into Garcia's whereabouts.

Divers were expected to return to the water tomorrow after pausing today for weather.

Anyone with information about Garcia's disappearance is urged to call 617-796-2100.

Case timeline

The search for Franco Garcia has lasted nearly a week.

- **Garcia, 21, went missing** Feb. 22 after leaving Mary Ann's bar in Brighton.
- **Cell phone records pinpoint** his location near the Chestnut Hill Reservoir at 1:15 a.m.
- **Garcia's family hangs up** posters Sunday in the area where he went missing.
- **State police first search the** reservoir Monday and return the following two days.
- **As of yesterday, there were** 2,440 peopled that "like" the Facebook page dedicated to help find Garcia.

STEVE ANNEAR
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February 2012

Midwest tornadoes kill at least 9 people

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Carolyn Osman looks over debris from the home of her mother-in-law, Mary Osman, who was killed after a tornado touched down yesterday in Harrisburg, Ill.

Suspected tornadoes killed at least six people in an Illinois town and three more in Missouri as powerful storms ripped through the Midwest — obliterating homes, churches and businesses across six states.

Six of the deaths occurred in Harrisburg, Ill., according to Gov. Pat Quinn's office, citing the Saline County coroner.

A storm temporarily closed the famous entertainment strip in the music city of Branson, Mo., where country music and other performers draw thousands of people a day to shows.

The hardest hit community appeared to be Harrisburg, where television images from the town of 10,000 showed collapsed buildings and overturned trucks, with mattresses and other debris caught in tree branches.

A separate tornado killed a person in a mobile home park in rural Buffalo, Mo., and another 13 were injured by a suspected twister, said Lamont Swanson, coroner for Dallas County.

REUTERS

News in brief

James Murdoch stands down

James Murdoch, son of News Corp. CEO Rupert Murdoch, has resigned from his position as executive chairman of News International.

As chairman and CEO of News Corp. Europe & Asia, Murdoch oversaw the company's British publishing unit while a phone-hacking scandal sank one of its newspapers, the News of the World, and allegations of bribery began to plague another, the Sun.

REUTERS

N. Korea agrees to nuclear moratorium

North Korea agreed to stop nuclear tests, uranium enrichment and long-range missile launches — and agreed to allow checks by nuclear inspectors — in an apparent policy shift that paves the way for resuming long-stalled disarmament talks.

The breakthrough makes possible the resumption of six-nation nuclear negotiations with Pyongyang. It followed talks between U.S. and North Korean diplomats in Beijing last week. REUTERS

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If it ain't brokered, who's gonna fix it?

For complaints, suggestions and digital attaboys, e-mail us at brayden.simms@metro.us.

Mitt Romney won the day on Tuesday (following Santorum's surprise February hat trick) with a pair of much-needed wins against his Republican primary opponents.

Or did he?

In Arizona, at least, Romney carried the day, collecting all 35 delegates in the state's winner-take-all contest. But in Michigan — the candidate's home state, where his father once governed and held an executive position at local job provider AMC — the win was murkier. There, Romney prevailed by a slim 3 percent margin, despite a significant money and ground advantage. And aside from the theoretical effect of his win-mentum, the fact is that the pair will mostly split the state's delegate votes.

So where does that leave us — and them? Pundits are mixed on whether the lack of a delegate majority will force a brokered convention, but next week's Super Tuesday may clear that up. In the meantime, we present some pertinent stats below to help inform your opinions.

Metro does not endorse the opinions of the author, or any opinions expressed on its pages.

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GET FED

Sometimes there's only time for the headlines:

- "Does Romney's Wealth Pay Dividends for Santorum?" **THE MONKEY CAGE**
- "Despite win, Romney still fosters doubts" **UTSANDIEGO.COM**
- "Arizona Officer Demoted Over Shot-Up Obama Image" **NEW YORK TIMES**
- "Will Olympia Snowe Join Americans Elect?" **DAILY INTEL**
- "One soldier, one year: $850,000 and rising" **CNN**
- "Rule and Ruin: The GOP's Secret Love Affair with Spending" **THE DAILY BEAST**
- "GOP Candidate Calls Holocaust 'Blackest Lie In History'" **HUFFINGTON POST**

Election by the numbers

46

Romney won an estimated 46 delegates on Tuesday to Santorum's estimated 13. (The Santorum camp claims 15, but the final count will take a little while to sort out.)

14

Due to GOP sanctions related to Michigan's state party moving its primary to before Super Tuesday, however, only 14 of Romney's estimated 21 Michigan delegates will be able to vote. Likewise for Santorum: Only 12 of his MI delegates can vote at the national convention.

$100,000

Romney handily carried Michigan voters earning $100,000 or more annually — taking this influential demographic by a 14-point margin. On the other hand, Romney lost out among voters making less than $100,000 and those who have not attended college.

1,144

In order to win the nomination, a candidate will have to secure 1,144 delegate votes by the August convention in Tampa — a majority of the total 2,286 delegates. Fox News estimates candidates' current delegate shares as follows: Romney 209, Santorum 96, Newt Gingrich 32 and Ron Paul 19.

COMSTOCK

3 to 1

Democratic voters pulled the lever for Santorum in Michigan by a 3-to-1 margin. Whether that was due to the Santorum camp's controversial robocalls — in which they called Democrats, encouraging them to come out and vote against Romney and, of course, for Santorum — remains unclear. Nearly 10 percent of voters in the open primary identified as Democrat, according to exit polls.

36%

On Super Tuesday — next Tuesday, March 6, 2012 — voters in 10 states will hand out 419 delegates to the Republican candidates, representing more than a third needed by any one candidate to secure the party's nomination. Georgia alone will award 76, which Newt Gingrich — of the perpetual comeback and fall-back-down continuum — hopes to claim, having served as the state's Congressman for 20 years.

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THE WORD

Metro's **Dorothy Robinson** shares her take on the world of gossip @dorothyatmetro dorothy.robinson@metro.us

In memoriam

Jones, ca. 1967

Davy Jones 1945-2012

Monkees singer Davy Jones died of a massive heart attack yesterday at age 66. Known for his theatrical smile, little-boy good looks and cheerful demeanor on the group's hit TV show, Jones was the only Brit in the band full of Americans. His accented delivery of such hits as "Daydream Believer" and "I Wanna Be Free" helped make the group a cuddly commodity in the '60s. Jones and the Monkees would enjoy two great bursts of success, initially in the late '60s and again in the mid-'80s, when MTV and other networks began re-airing original "Monkees" episodes. Jones' other notable contributions to pop culture include pioneering the sashay dance that Axl Rose would later become known for, a memorable cameo on a "Brady Bunch" episode and serving as the reason that David Bowie (who was born David Jones) took up a stage name. PAT HEALY

▶ Jones, performing with The Monkees last May.

Snooki: A little person expecting a little person?

Though she recently denied it, many news organizations are now reporting that **Nicole "Snooki" Polizzi** is indeed three months pregnant with boyfriend **Jionni LaValle**'s baby. The "Jersey Shore" star is reportedly looking to make the most of the announcement — and has even brokered a deal for a cover story with Us Weekly. Apparently, Snooki is looking to use her pregnancy to become "the next Kourtney Kardashian," a source tells Page Six. But reps at MTV aren't as excited, since Snooki is currently filming a "Jersey Shore" spin-off chronicling her hard-partying lifestyle. "MTV went into crisis mode after they found out," the source says. "They're trying to hide it because it would greatly affect the creative direction of the show."

I laughed at this because, well, "creative direction" and "'Jersey Shore' spin-off" do not go together. But then it makes sense: MTV's programming is filled with a million bad parenting reality shows, from "Teen Mom" to "16 and Pregnant." Even they are probably loath to air a segment of Snooki taking her baby for her first spray tan.

Maybe when Snookis around the world get pregnant, their babies gestate in their cleavage?

Toni Braxton and Eddie Murphy?

Color us surprised: **Toni Braxton** and **Eddie Murphy** are dating, per Us Weekly.

Murphy

The singer, 44, and comic actor, 50, "are seeing each other and are very into it," a source tells the magazine, adding that the romance started four months ago.

Braxton's rep insists "Toni and Eddie are just friends and have been fans of each other's work for a long time." However, the insider says, "Their kids have met. ... It's getting very serious."

Talking points

Garner's baby boy

Jennifer Garner gave birth to a son on Tuesday in Santa Monica, Calif. Husband **Ben Affleck** posted on his Facebook page that they're "happy to announce" that "Jennifer gave birth to a healthy baby boy, Samuel Garner Affleck." It's the third child and first boy for the couple, who also have daughters Violet, 6, and Seraphina, 3. Garner previously said that they knew the gender of the baby ahead of time but weren't sharing that information. "It would be so weird to have a boy," she told **Ellen DeGeneres** during an interview last year.

Lohan's 'SNL' comeback

Lindsay Lohan is mounting her comeback, starting with a stint hosting "Saturday Night Live" this week, and she knows there's a lot at stake. "I will not let anyone down, especially myself," she said in an interview with the "Today" show, starkly contrasting her last visit to the show, during which she denied having any problems at all. "I wasn't as comfortable with myself then. I think it was a fear factor that I had about what was really going on. And, you know, I had to get that wake-up call."

Houston biopic in the works?

Plans are reportedly already underway for a movie about **Whitney Houston**'s life, according to the Daily Mail. Producer **Clive Davis** is behind the project; and while **Jennifer Hudson**, **Vivica Fox** and **Jordin Sparks** may be on the list for the lead role, Davis is said to have his eye on **Rihanna** to play Houston. And lest it seem like Davis is trying to cash in on his friend's death, the film was reportedly already being developed before Houston died last month. A source says, "Whitney knew about the project and was excited to see where it would lead."

The feed ...

▶ Checking in with some of Hollywood's biggest names to see what they've been up to — in their own words, in 140 characters or fewer.

David Wain is trying new tactics to get people to see his movie "Wanderlust," Henry Winkler is catching up on TV, Mary Elizabeth Winstead is recovering from an accident and Elijah Wood remembers Davy Jones.

@davidwain
Favor for me: if you liked Wanderlust, please email 100 friends and tell them to go see it. As thanks I'll send you a Blue 2009 Honda Civic.

@hwinkler4real
YES we are a little behind in the Winkler household but ... BREAKING BAD..HAS OVER TAKEN ME

@M_E_Winstead
I just cut my hand with texturizing shears and full on passed out. Great way to start the day!

@woodelijah Davy Jones of the Monkees is dead. He was 66 years old. A little bit of my youth just died

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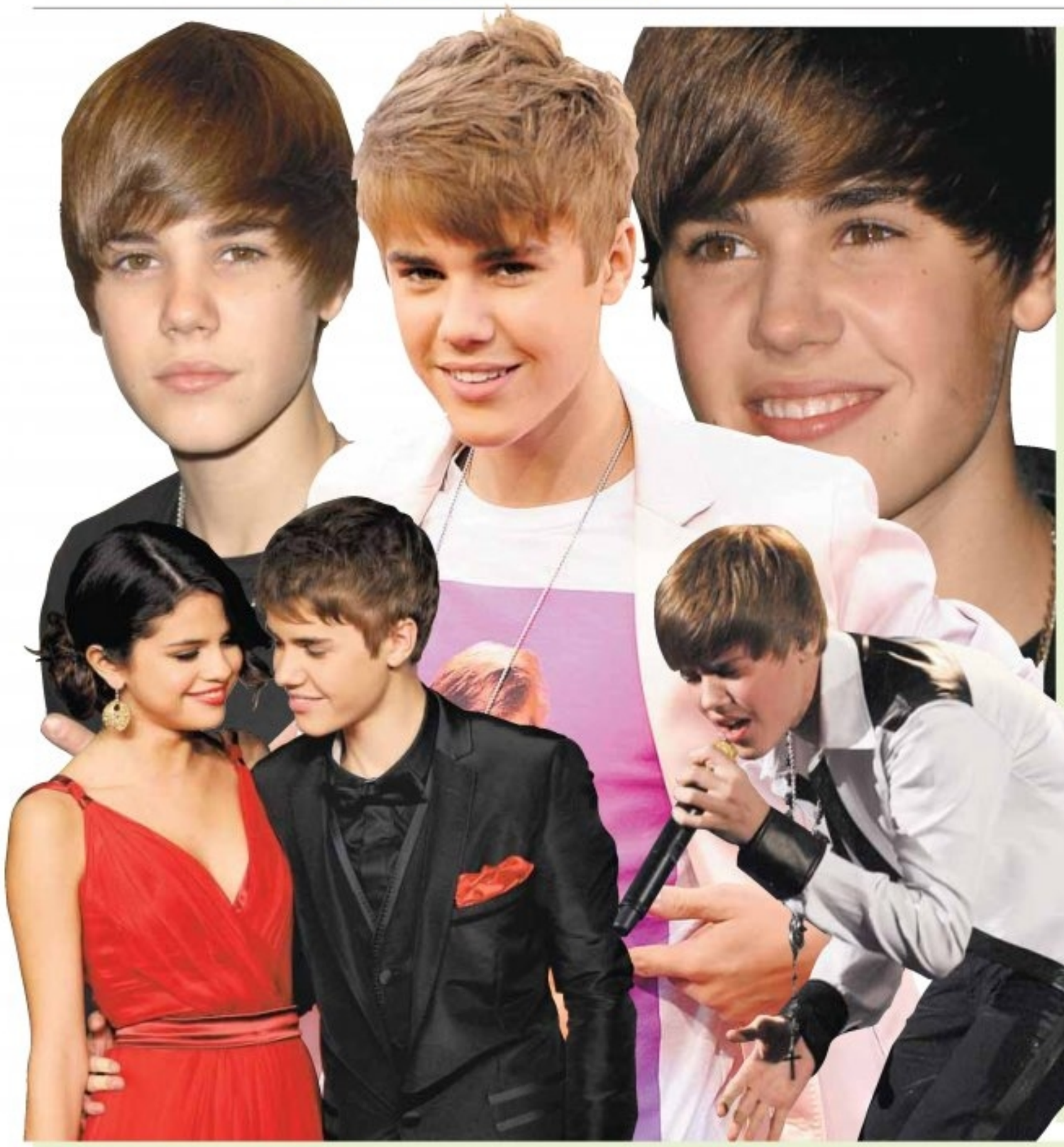

Happy 18th birthday, Mr. Bieber — you're finally legal!

Eighteen years ago today, on March 1, 1994, a mop-headed infant by the name of Justin Bieber came tap, tap, tap, tap-dancing out of his mother's womb in Ontario, Canada. Thanks to some talent, YouTube and a certain charm that appeals to every single girl under the age of 16 the world over, the force that is Justin Bieber is now worth somewhere in the market of $85 million. In honor of his 18th birthday, we picked out some of our favorite shots of the now-legal teen idol, and wanted to show you how his look has become so prevalent — even these mug shots fell under the influence of it. Not bad for a kid who was discovered only in 2008.

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In theaters

New films to see this weekend

1 **'Project X'** The buzz has been building for what has been described as the ultimate party movie — shot hand-held style by a cast of unknowns. Like every great high school film, it's about nerds who conquer all by throwing a rager.

2 **'Dr. Seuss' The Lorax'** Zac Efron, Danny DeVito, Taylor Swift and Ed Helms voice the central characters of this beloved children's story about the extinction of the truffula trees. The film opens on what would've been Dr. Seuss' 108th birthday.

3 **'Tim and Eric's Billion Dollar Movie'** The princes of awkward anti-humor expand their Adult Swim show to a full 90 minutes, whether that's a good idea or not.

4 **'Wanderlust'** Paul Rudd and Jennifer Aniston star in this Judd Apatow-produced comedy about an unemployed couple who go in search of an unconventional life on a hippie commune.

METRO

Eyes wide shut

A grieving detective copes with the loss of a family member by living two realities in 'Awake'

Jason Isaacs, perhaps best known for his portrayal of the "Harry Potter" villain Lucius Malfoy, may have hung up his broomstick, but fantasy remains at the forefront of his latest project — even if it is a crime procedural.

The Isaacs-headlined psychological drama "Awake" is not a by-the-books "Law & Order" redux, that's for sure. In the show, Isaacs plays detective Michael Britten, who is involved in a deadly car accident with his wife and son — except, he's not sure if it was his wife or son who perished in the crash. Britten has developed a unique coping mechanism that has convinced him he is living two realities. In one, his wife is alive, but his son is not. He falls asleep, wakes up, and lives the second reality: His son is alive, but wife is not. The cycle alternates every day.

"In many ways I took the part because I wanted to see what Episode 2 was before anybody else read it," Isaacs jokes. But intrigue did play a major part in Isaacs' decision to join the show. "It's just one of those incredibly simple yet powerful premises about your imagination: What if your dreams were so real that you didn't know you were dreaming?" he ponders. "I'm always furious when I wake up and I know I've had this incredible dream that's just evaporated. But that doesn't happen to him."

LEWIS JACOBS/NBC

▶ Is he dreaming? Det. Michael Britten (Jason Isaacs, right) can't figure out if his son (Dylan Minnette) has died in an accident, or his wife is the one who was killed. "Awake" premieres tonight at 10. on NBC.

Things get more complicated — and dangerous — as Britten's two worlds collide on the job. A random person in one "dream" may lead to a crucial piece of evidence in a case he's working on in the other "dream."

"Sometimes I have to reorient myself as a character to remind myself who we're chasing after and why," Isaacs says. "The people around me, obviously, react as you would to somebody who seems to have lost it."

Was it just a dream?

The idea that Det. Michael Britten is living two lives brings into question whether or not he really is just dreaming. Maybe it's an elaborate, fantastical alternate universe, instead?

"There's no sci-fi," Isaacs insists. "He doesn't fly. Both worlds are equally and completely real — to him. But only one of them does exist."

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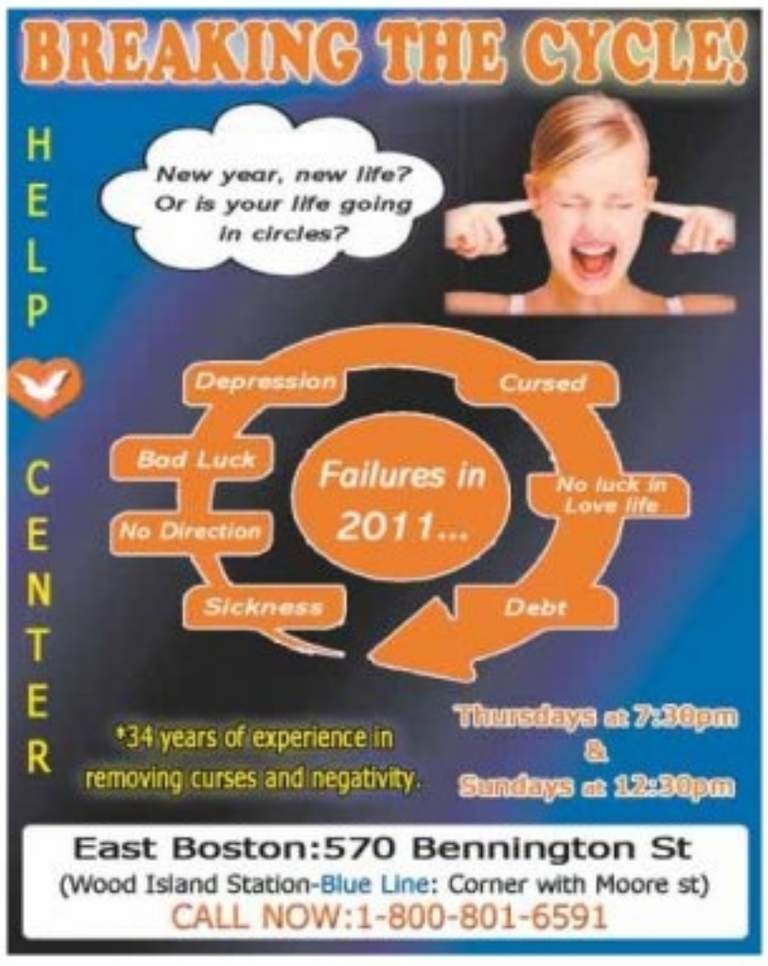

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Letters

letters@metro.us

Healthy reporting in news? Fat chance

RE: "THE SKINNY ON EATING DISORDERS": I found it quite disturbing that Metro chose to run their eating disorder piece right next to one about how Emma Stone got her "red-carpet bod." One of the reasons many women and girls suffer from low self esteem and eating disorders is that they're constantly bombarded with the idea that their worth and value to society lies in their appearance. There was also the bit on how wearing red is more attractive to men, and don't even get me started on the ads. No wonder women struggle to accept their bodies and themselves. **KELSI SWANK, VIA E-MAIL**

If you want to rob us, rob yourselves

Hey politicians: Give up your benefits if you are determined to take mine. You work for me, you have no right to take what I've earned and give yourself more than your employers, the voters. Corporate CEOs are eliminating earned retiree benefits. Corporate America is passing the buck again to federal and state taxpayers, who are being forced to pick up the tab for millions of newly uninsured retirees. **REGINA MAHONEY, VIA E-MAIL**

"[Supreme Court Justices] consider themselves above the law."

Justices Scalia and Clarence Thomas are a disgrace to the honor of the Supreme Court. They continue to hear cases where they should recuse themselves. It is outrageous that once appointed to the court they cannot be removed. They consider themselves above the law. **ROBERT LA ROSA, VIA E-MAIL**

Piercing infants akin to child abuse

RE: "IF YOUR CHILD WANTS EARRINGS": What if your child wants to drink beer, or wear inappropriate clothing? Some things are decisions for adults to make for themselves. Why would any parent inflict pain on an infant for such a frivolous purpose? To me, it is child abuse to pierce a sweet, innocent baby's ears. People should be able to decide for themselves whether or not they want to have holes in their heads — not whether they want scarred lobes for life. **DEBORAH FENKER, VIA E-MAIL**

E-mail your letters: **letters@metro.us**
Keep them as brief as possible, preferably under 100 words.
Metro reserves the right to edit all letters.
Please include your name and contact information.

Horoscope

♓ Pisces **Feb. 20-March 20.** Don't waste time fretting over a problematical development.
♈ Aries **March 21-April 19.** There's no better day to clear up old correspondence, make those phone calls or get on the Internet.
♉ Taurus **April 20-May 20.** Because financial trends should be moving in your favor, focus your energies on the kinds of matters that are materially meaningful to you.
♊ Gemini **May 21-June 20.** Even though normally you're open to suggestion, your independence is of extreme importance to you right now.
♋ Cancer **June 21-July 22.** Gratification is not likely to come from what you do for yourself but what you do for others.
♌ Leo **July 23-Aug. 22.** Involvements with pretentious people can sometimes bring out this characteristic in us as well. Try to hang out with people who are naturally humble.
♍ Virgo **Aug. 23-Sept. 22.** The probability for engaging in some kind of outstanding activity and producing a gangbusters achievement is quite astounding.
♎ Libra **Sept. 23-Oct. 23.** Some perceptions you're likely to get regarding the outcome of events could be more accurate than anything your logical side is telling you.
♏ Scorpio **Oct. 24-Nov. 22.** If you find yourself connected with people who are in high positions, take advantage of it and talk to one of them about one of your big ideas.
♐ Sagittarius **Nov. 23-Dec. 21.** The potential for accomplishment is likely to be much greater in a partnership arrangement than it is through independent action.
♑ Capricorn **Dec. 22-Jan. 19.** Assignments that require strength will be the ones you're likely to perform the most effectively.
♒ Aquarius **Jan. 20-Feb. 19.** Spending some time on a social involvement isn't likely to be a waste.
BERNICE BEDE OSOL

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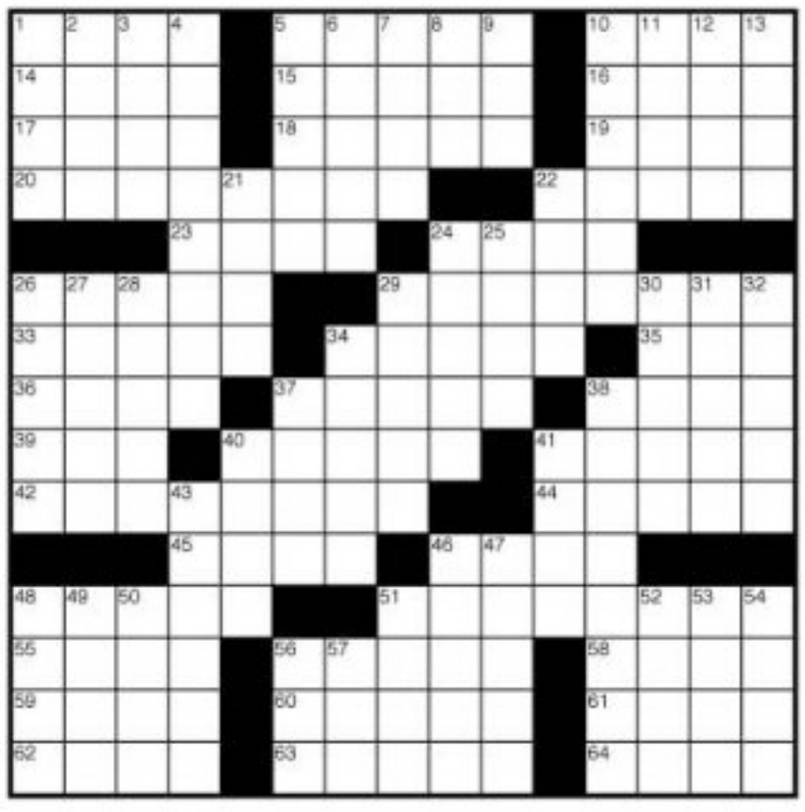
LETTERS@METRO.US

Across
1 Gobs of gum
5 Turns sharply
10 Wisecrack
14 "The Mammoth Hunters" author
15 Gutter sites
16 Bear in the sky
17 __ fixe
18 Ground grain
19 Comrade-in-arms
20 Safety partition
22 Bonet and Hartman
23 Hug's companion
24 Oprah's middle name
26 Tackled moguls
29 Hoops feat(2 wds.)
33 Ben, of "Bonanza"
34 Kids around
35 Umbrage
36 Scroll cabinets
37 Jacket features
38 Reach across
39 Before marriage
40 Repairs a tear
41 Granny Smith, e.g.
42 Gizmos
44 Henhouse
45 Facile
46 Blond
48 Jack London setting
51 Occurs earlier
55 Did great
56 Clay-target sport
58 Non-flying bird
59 Fr. miss
60 Great blue __
61 Wayfarer's refuges
62 Drains
63 Doglike scavenger
64 Breezy greeting



Down
1 Street urchin
2 Autobahn vehicle
3 Hunter's prey
4 Uses pomade
5 Slot machine city
6 Titles like Tarzan's
7 Black-hearted
8 Home tel.
9 Sonic-boom maker of yore
10 Bobwhites
11 WWW addresses
12 Cuba, to Castro
13 Reimburses
21 Far-flung
22 Gloss target
24 Puffs of wind
25 Qtys.
26 Informal speech
27 Seoul site
28 Annoyed
29 Female donkey
30 Zoo heavyweight
31 Ph.D. exams
32 Doctrine
34 __ -built
37 Tubs
38 On and off
40 Campus figure
41 Bone-dry
43 Rock shop curiosities
46 Fridge coolant
47 Hartford competitor
48 Edible roots
49 West Coast sch.
50 Brown seaweed
51 Dijon dad
52 Writer __ Morrison
53 Ms. Ferber
54 Nothing special (hyph.)
56 Keep it down!
57 Sardine-can opener

			5	1		6		
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SUDOKU **LEVEL: EASY**

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		3	6					7
			8					1
	1	4				2	7	
6					2			
9					8	7		
7	3						5	
	6		1	7		9		4

SUDOKU **LEVEL: HARD**

Solution to yesterday's crossword

P	A	T	H	S		M	O	T	H		H	O	P	I
U	B	O	A	T		A	R	I	A		A	C	A	D
T	E	R	R	A		R	E	B	S		N	E	I	L
S	L	O	P	P	Y	J	O	E		A	D	A	G	E
		O	L	E	O		R	E	F	I	N	E	D	
O	H	S		E	T	R	E		L	A	C			
A	U	K		D	I	A	L		F	R	A	P	P	E
K	L	E	E			M	O	C			P	R	O	M
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E	L	A	P	S	E	S		E	C	O	L			
L	A	M	I	A		P	E	A	S	O	U	P	E	R
L	U	B	E		S	L	A	W		P	E	E	V	E
E	R	I	C		P	I	S	A		E	G	R	E	T
S	A	T	E		A	T	T	Y		R	O	U	S	E

How to play Sudoku: Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

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food&drink

Saloon: Get in on the secret

ERIN BALDASSARI/METRO

▶ Visit Saloon at 255 Elm St. in Somerville. For details, call 617-628-4444 or visit www.saloondavis.com

There are two ways for a bar to attract a lot of attention: Either be the new kid on the block, or hang around long enough that you build of a sense of history that's hard to ignore. A bar that can pull of both simultaneously is a rarity, but Saloon, the offshoot of the popular Foundry On Elm in Davis Square, might have stumbled across the formula.

One of the most handsome barrooms to open in recent memory, the pre-Prohibition New York City saloon concept manages to seem both novel and lived-in at once.

THURSTY

LUKE O'NEIL
LUKE.ONEIL@METRO.US

"A lot of places that open look brand new," bar manager Dennis Cargill says. "With the dark woods and leather, you would almost swear the place has been there for a long time. People ask a lot if this place was really an old speakeasy."

Part of achieving that feel was resurrecting furniture and fixtures from actual historic restaurants and borrowing some of their aura. Couple that with waitresses decked out in turn-of-the-century, flapper-style uniforms; hearty meats and cheeses served on wooden blocks; and a truly old-timey cocktail program that looks, Janus-like, both backward and forward at once. Altogether, it makes for a bar experience outside of the predictable.

"It reminds people of a bygone era," says Cargill. "It's like escaping from the real world and visiting a place from the past."

Saloon selective

Location, location, location

Also adding to the attraction of Saloon: being stashed away in the basement of Foundry with an unmarked entrance. People like feeling like they're in on a secret.

"If you're just walking down the street looking for it, you don't even know it's there," says Cargill. "But you hear about it, and you look for it, and it's part of that thing of trying to find something that you can't."

Drink this

It's not just the decor that adds to Saloon's aura: It's what's being served — and what those liquids are served in as well. The Claret Punch, made with brandy, Yellow Chartreuse, red wine, lemon, honey and soda water is served in actual 12 oz. flasks. "Once people see someone drinking out of a flask, the next table will order one," says Cargill.

Little touches like that go a long way toward setting Saloon apart; likewise do the housemade drams. The Southie Comfort is made with rye, brandy, citrus rinds, toasted almonds or peach pits, honey, sugar and Jerry Thomas bitters. "It tastes like Southern Comfort, but it's much more lean," Cargill says.

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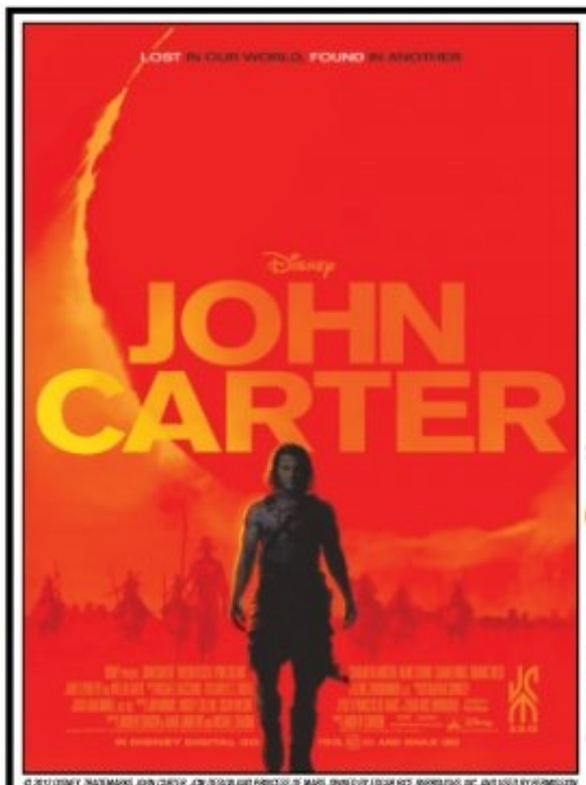

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hot tickets

A 'Celebration' to last throughout the years

Kool & the Gang are ready to bring their pop-funk party music to the rock party Founder and sax player Robert 'Kool' Bell on playing with Van Halen and decades of hits

KOOL & THE GANG

▶ Kool, second from left, and the Gang (everyone else in the photo) open up for Van Halen in a sold-out show Sunday, March 11, at the TD Garden.

Kool & the Gang are opening for Van Halen? This unlikely lineup sounds like the biggest tour on the planet … circa 1982. But make no mistake, this is a double-bill that is hardly past its prime, as many of the shows on the tour are sold out. Founding member Robert "Kool" Bell says that a group known for dancing the night away works well with a group known for jungle boogying.

How did this whole tour come about?

We've known [Van Halen singer David Lee Roth] for a year. What happened was that he saw us performing at the Glastonbury show last August and we had about 60,000 people in front of our stage. … He saw us there and said, "I want you guys to open up for us."

And had you crossed paths before? Both bands were on top of the world in the 1980s.

Well, that's one of the things that he brought to my attention. They were hot in the '80s, with "Jump" and some of their big records. They were the rock party band, and we were the pop-funk party band.

Though the '80s were big for Kool & the Gang, you guys aren't really defined by those years.

Kool & the Gang have been playing since '64, and we've been dealing with changes every decade. But we've been blessed to make it through the '60s, the '70s, the '80s, the '90s and now the new millennium.

So when you've been playing "Celebration" for more than 30 years, how do you keep that excitement going?

Well, the people keep us excited, because "Celebration" is a song that's lasted throughout the years. … They give us the energy and we give it back to them. … Plus we know, of course when the hostages were returned from Iran, they played "Celebration." Also, here's one that happened two or three months ago — the astronauts woke up to "Celebration" on the last space shuttle mission, on the space station. … And then you've got so many Super Bowls and World Series and basketball championships.

Did you know when you guys were writing it that it would be that kind of song?

No, we didn't. We felt good about it. What happened was another career change. We were coming out of the '70s and we decided to get a lead singer who became James "J.T." Taylor, and "Ladies Night" was our first big record that took us into the '80s. So, we were at the American Music Awards. I think we won two awards that night, so my brother came up with this idea, "Hey, this is time to celebrate!" So when we got back to New Jersey, he came up with this groove called "Celebration." And we all came together and started writing the song. That's how it started… not knowing that this was going to be a celebration that so far has lasted throughout the years — 32 years now.

'Kool & the Gang: The Musical'?

Bell says Kool & the Gang have been working with Ben Elton to bring a Broadway show to life by 2013.

"It's about our lives," he says, "kind of like 'Jersey Boys.'"

PAT HEALY
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Also onstage

'Rise of the Last King' indeed

When you're a member of Young Money — home of Lil Wayne, Nicki Minaj and Drake — no one could blame you if you were a bit nervous. But rapper Tyga seems to be at ease with his position at what is arguably hip-hop's hottest label.

"I don't think I ever really got lost," he says. "Everyone just kind of learned from Wayne. I just use it as a chance to watch and grow."

Resting easy — with a good dose of hard work — seems to be the right course of action for the rapper, who is straight outta Compton. Since his 2008 debut album, "No Introduction," a string of mix tapes has maintained the buzz. His collaboration with Chris Brown, "Fan of a Fan," gave birth to "Deuces," which netted a Grammy nod and helped the controversial R&B singer on the comeback trail.

Tyga's newest project, sophomore album "Careless World: Rise Of The Last King," released last week, is on track to crack 70,000 in first-week sales — not bad, considering an uncleared sample kept physical copies out of stores. It's an album that steps up his game while claiming a more diverse sound — Nicki Minaj, Nas and Wale are collaborators. But even with a massive hit like the anchor track "Rack City," don't expect Tyga to coast on his accomplishments.

"With my generation of fans you have to be consistent," he says. "And that's something that I like to do."

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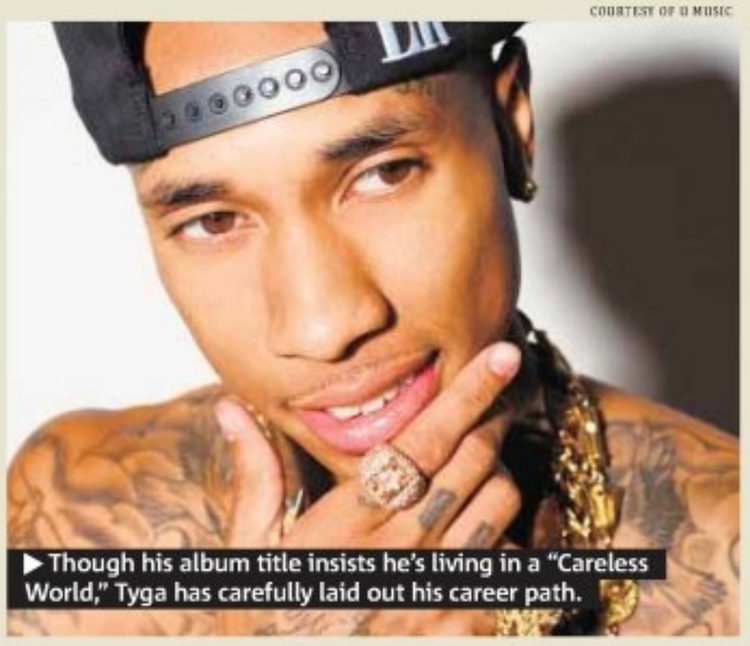

▶ Though his album title insists he's living in a "Careless World," Tyga has carefully laid out his career path.

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ON TV TODAY

NHL HOCKEY

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GETTY IMAGES

▶ Rajon Rondo

Celtics trade rumors in full swing

ESPN reported yesterday that the Celtics are "aggressively shopping (Rajon) Rondo" and that the point guard's personality is "too high-maintenance" and that he continues to clash with Doc Rivers. Sources said that a Rondo for Golden State's Stephen Curry deal was close at one point.

FoxSportsOhio also hinted that Minnesota's Michael Beasley could be in play. ● MATT BURKE

Dirt dog on skates

● Gritty Zanon to make Bruins debut tonight against New Jersey
● Coveted shot-blocker ● Looking to help B's find way out of recent skid

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Greg Zanon (5) gains position on the Bruins last month. Zanon makes his Boston debut tonight against the Devils.

Greg Zanon and Peter Chiarelli had crossed paths before.

Chiarelli was with Ottawa in 2000 when the Senators drafted Zanon, a left-shot defenseman, in the fifth round of the NHL Draft.

But Zanon chose college instead. It was not until Monday, with the Bruins in need of depth on defense for the postseason push, that Chiarelli and Zanon finally became a team.

The Bruins acquired Zanon from Minnesota for Steve Kampfer. Zanon will make his Bruins debut tonight against the Devils at TD Garden.

"I seen a lot of him," Chiarelli said. "I saw him when he was in Nebraska-Omaha, I saw him, of course, when he was in Ottawa for summer development camps and I've been following him ever since. You look back and I can recall we were off a little bit on the signing bonus and we decided to walk [away], and he probably said, 'Screw you,' and he's had a good career, so I give him credit. He's a gritty guy."

Zanon shows that grit with his propensity for shot-blocking, an attribute the Bruins coveted.

"Just being myself, playing physical, trying to move the puck as quick as I can," Zanon said of his style. "You know, solid on the [penalty kill], doing whatever I can to prevent the puck from going in our net. I'll do anything to try to prevent a goal and just do anything that the team needs me to do. You know, obviously, they'll let me know what my role is going to be when I get there, but the only thing I can do is come and just play the way I've played my whole career and hopefully it takes care of itself."

Although not an offensive force, Zanon joins the team during a bit of a scoring crisis. The Bruins were shut out for the fifth time in the month of February on Tuesday night.

"Obviously, I haven't been here, but it's been .500 hockey right now and [head coach Claude Julien] wants to get this thing going," Zanon said. "We just have to put our best foot forward to give it everything we got these last 21 games."

JEFF GOLDBERG
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212

Zanon had 212 blocked shots in 2010-11 for the Wild. His 104 this year would rank second on the Bruins behind Dennis Seidenberg (131).

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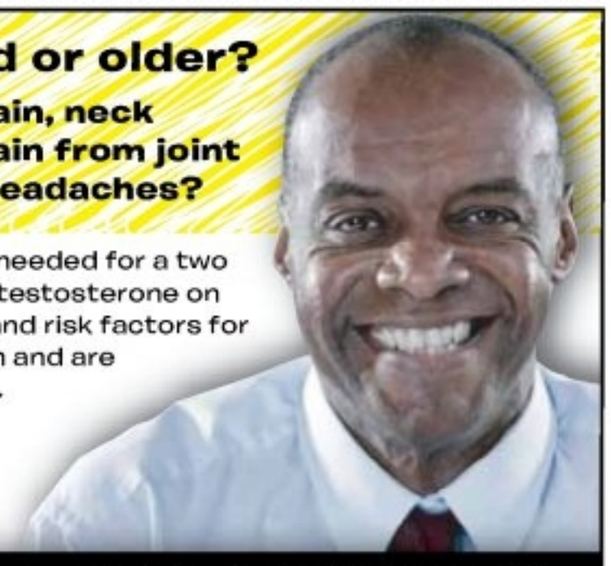

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